

The Parish Magazine

St John-in-Bedwardine
St Michael's



November 2022

50p



Information

WORCESTER CITY WEST TEAM CLERGY

clergy@wcw.church

Day off

The Reverend PHIL BRADFORD (01905 423794)

Friday

The Reverend SARAH COTTRILL (01905 426257)

Saturday

TEAM OFFICE

You can contact the office by email, post or telephone.		The office is open Wednesday and Friday 9am-12noon.
Postal address: 1a Bromyard Road St John's, WR2 5BS	Tel: (01905) 420490 e-mail: office@wcw.church	

ON THE WEB

St John's	Parish Website: www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine
St Michael's	Parish Website and A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19689/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaelsdinesgreen/

SERVICES

Please check our websites and Facebook pages, or the notices published on the church noticeboards and printed in the magazine and weekly pew sheets.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about possible abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the PCC Safeguarding Representatives shown below.

Churchwardens: stjohns.churchwardens@wcw.church Gordon Templeton (749025), Joy Job (423051).	St John's
Pastoral care: The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact Sylvia Render (telephone 422654/email sylviarender@talktalk.net).	
Safeguarding: Jane Askew (01905 424811) or any member of the clergy.	
The church of St John-in-Bedwardine is a registered charity, number 1152583.	
Churchwardens: Mike Dowling (dowlingm28@sky.com/424539), Val Mason (val.mason@yahoo.com/428948).	St Michael's
Safeguarding Officer: Liz Edwards (stmichaels.safeguarding@wcw.church) On Site Safeguarding Officer: Mike Dowling (details above).	

A word from the editors

Welcome to our November edition. With Remembrance Sunday this month, our theme for this month is that the point of remembering is to act differently in the future. Phil discusses this in his letter, overleaf, and there's another reflection on this on page 35.

We're pleased to give you a healthy diary of forthcoming events from page 7 onwards. We hope you will find something there to attract you. Please visit page 9 to check some events whose dates have changed from those previously advertised.

Another thread running through this magazine is prayer. There are prayers for Ukraine and other suffering places in our broken world on page 26 - and (if you can knit) you can help others pray - see page 19.

We leave you with a prayer for peace.

*God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Graham and Sue Evans

Important information

Email address: parishmagazine@wcv.church

Next edition (December): Deadline is Sunday 13th November.

Distribution, towards the end of November.

Subscription form: Page 46.

Cover picture: A picture from the National Memorial Arboretum, by Colin Nash.

Pictures in this magazine: Our thanks to those who provided pictures for this magazine including Jenny English, Joy Job, Rob Little, Colin Nash, Maureen Ovington and Ruth Reeves.

The magazine

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August.

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes and anecdotes are welcome - do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact. Do include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered. If you can, please use e-mail (address below left). The editors will always acknowledge items sent by email; please try again if you do not receive a response. Please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office.

The magazine costs 50p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £5 per year; by subscribing you make things easier for our printing team as we know more closely how many copies to print.

You can subscribe by filling in the form on page 46 or by taking a subscription form from the rack (where the magazines are) at the back of the church. Please return the form and your payment to the parish office.

Opinions!

Opinions expressed in this magazine are personal opinions of the authors concerned and may not represent the views of the editors, our PCCs or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

To advertise

Please see page 13.

From Phil Bradford

2022 has been a year of remembering, both celebratory and poignant. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Queen Elizabeth II in June, followed by her death in September, both caused us to cast our minds back across her extraordinarily long seventy-year reign in which the world changed dramatically. One memory in particular surfaced repeatedly, which was the



promise Princess Elizabeth made on her twenty-first birthday to dedicate her life to service. Many reflections have focussed on how dutifully she kept that promise across seven decades. In the past, ascending monarchs have made a very obvious break with their predecessors and stated their intentions to act differently (the subtext usually being better). Notably and touchingly, in his first address to the nation, King Charles III made a clear statement of his intention to honour his mother's memory and continue her legacy. Elizabeth II will not just be a memory, but rather someone whose duty and service will continue to shape the monarchy in the future.

Yet amidst all this, what are we actually remembering? Those remembering the death of one monarch and the accession of a new one will have experienced things very differently this time, everything thrown open to the cameras and available to watch live; 1952 and 1936, the only precedents anyone alive today will recall, were very different. I have no clear memories of Elizabeth II's reign before 1992 and the 'annus horribilis'. Other people's memories will stretch much further back, but even then we experienced most of it second-hand, through media coverage and television programmes. We talk of remembering the Queen's reign, but we do so in a way very different to how we remember our own lives.

That is a key point as we come to November and the season of remembrance.

First, we do remember very personally, when at All Souls we recall those we have loved and lost, giving thanks for how they have shaped (and continue to shape) our lives. Coming to Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday, it is very different. Some do recall their personal losses from World War II and subsequent conflicts, or have been in the armed forces and know the cost of war all too well. For those like me, fortunate enough to have been born long after the

war ended and lived my entire life through peace, remembrance is something else. It is about honouring the memory of those we never knew, who lost their lives in the trauma and horror of conflict, recognising the sacrifice they made.

However, remembrance is about far more than just looking back in horror and raking over the trauma of the past. As we look back upon those horrors, we must also learn from them in order to look forwards and change. We do not honour the memory of the dead if we do not resolve to ensure that they did not die in vain. Remembering the dead of war, we should seek the way of peace, to build a world free of the violence and bloodshed which has claimed so many lives. That will not be easy; as the terrible conflict in Ukraine reminds us right now, evil dictators and rampant nationalism remain potent forces. Yet to simply accept that is the case, and do nothing to change it, is a fatalism alien to both remembrance and the Christian faith. We remember precisely because we believe that things can be different, that we can learn from the past to shape a better future, one in which we follow God's ways of peace and justice.

There is, after all, no command in the Old Testament which is more insistent and more frequently repeated than that to remember. The Israelites are commanded by God to remember both good and bad, the slavery and pain into which their sinful behaviour led them, as well as the mercy God showed them when they turned from such ways. Remembrance is about far more than simply memory; it is about re-membering, putting back together. Drawing on that Jewish legacy, as Christians we look back and see the ways in which division and selfish action have taken us away from God and led us down a path of destruction.

Recognising that, we must then seek to heal those divisions, to re-member the body of Christ as part of our call to build God's kingdom.

Phil

Collect for Remembrance Sunday

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

In Memoriam

Robert Telfer Dedicott	2 November 1984
Rowland Taylor	4 November 1996
Andrew FI Jenkinson	4 November 2007
Rose Hodgetts	5 November 1985
Reginald James Rogers	6 November 1995
Marion Edna Thomas	7 November 1982
Margaret Dance	14 November 1996
Herbert Willian (Bill) Bosley	17 November 1998
Harold Ricketts	19 November 1996
Jeremy Edward Glyn Cole	20 November 2020

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic but must be specifically requested via the clergy.
Newly added: Jeremy Edward Glyn Cole - beloved son of John and Glenis.

Inclusion only needs to be requested once; entries are then included until the fortieth anniversary.
An extension may be requested by family or friends of those named.

From the Registers, September 2022

St John's

BAPTISMS: *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

4th September 2022 Myah-Grace Thompson

WEDDINGS: *Those whom God has joined together*

3rd September 2022 Robert Houghton and Leanne Jinks

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 11th August 2022 Marina Richardson

SERVICES: Communicants 155. Total attendance at all services 579, including 246 at a baptism, a wedding and a funeral.

St Michael's

SERVICES: Communicants 85. Total attendance at all services 96.

Sundays and Principal Feasts in November

Tuesday 1st: All Saints' Day

Sunday 6th Third Sunday before Advent

Sunday 13th: Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 20th: Christ the King

Sunday 27th: Advent Sunday

Wednesday 30th: Andrew the Apostle

ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

**ALL SOULS'
SERVICE**



**SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER
at 5.30PM**

*If you would like to have a loved one remembered by having their name read out at the service, please fill in the sheet at the back of church by **Sunday 30th October***

Mid-week services

The following mid-week Eucharists are scheduled for October:

Tuesday	St John's 10am. (Eucharist - Book of Common Prayer)
Thursday	St Michael's 10.30am. (Eucharist - Common Worship)

All event information should be regarded as provisional and checked near the time

Dates for your diary

Location key (J) St John’s Church (M) St Michael’s Church
 (V) The Vicarage, 7 Manor Road

(J) Saturday 5th November: Community breakfast. Details below.

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 9th November, 10am-11.30am: Little Blessings.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 12th November, 9am: Women’s breakfast, see page 11.

--- 000 ---

(J) Thursday 10th November, 1pm: Good Old Days talk, The Great Fire of London, see page 11.

--- 000 ---

(M) Thursday 10th November, 2pm - 4pm: West Worcester Friendship Group.

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 16th November, 3pm: Tea/Coffee & Cake, see page 11.

--- 000 ---

(V) Friday 18th November (change of date): Fourth Friday Friendship Group. Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(V) Saturday 19th November (change of date): The Quiet Day for Advent. Please look for details in the pewsheets or ask Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(M) Monday 21st November, 2.30pm: Mothers’ Union, speaker Rev Mike Gardner “My Journey to Worcester.” (Postponed from September as our meeting fell on the same day as the Queen's funeral.)

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 23rd November, 10am-11.30am: Little Blessings

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 26th November, 10.15am: Café at 10:15, see page 11.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 26th November, 9am: Coach trip to Gloucester Quays, see page 9.

Community Breakfast

The Community Breakfast is on Saturday 5th November. Breakfast is served from 8.30am until 11am. A time for the community to come together and share fellowship and good conversation with others - as well as a “Full English Breakfast” with unlimited supplies of tea, toast, and coffee.

This is a free event and all are welcome.

Jenny English

Changes of date

Due to circumstances beyond my control, two previously advertised dates have to be changed. These are:

- Fourth Friday Friendship will take place on the third Friday of the month – November 18th.
- The Quiet Day for Advent, advertised for November 26th will now take place on November 19th. Details of this will be published shortly.

My apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Sarah Cottrill

Gloucester Quays

FOR CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ADDRESS ONLY

Shop till you drop at the Docks then a follow up with a spot of lunch in one of the beautiful restaurants overlooking the water.
Sat 26th November

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9am**

All event information should be regarded as provisional and checked near the time

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2022 7.30PM

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Sudoku Puzzle

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*The
solution is
on the
inside back
cover.*

	3	8			9			
			1		6	2		
				2			5	
	4							6
		2	3		1	7		
5							9	
	6			5				
		9	2		4			
			8			9	1	

Events at St John's



The Great Fire of London

Discover History talk with refreshments

Only £4

St Johns Church
Thursday 10th November
1pm

ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

Open for Tea/Coffee
and Cakes

£2.00



Wednesday 16th November

at 3pm in the Church

ALL WELCOME

St John in Bedwardine



Join us for Fresh Coffee and Danish

'Friendship and Thoughts'

At 10.15am on

**Saturday
26th November**

*Thought for the day by
Luise Horrocks*

ALL WELCOME



Women's Breakfast Meetings
for Friendship and
Christian Fellowship

Why not join us?
Everyone is welcome!

Our next meeting is on

Saturday 12th November

9.00am until 11.00am

St John-in-Bedwardine
in The Blakefield Room
Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)





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Mothers' Union News

The MU Worcester Deanery celebrated their Deanery Festival on September 13th at St Martins, London Road. Rev Peter Hart led the service and the speaker was Rachel Cramp. The members of St. Martin's Branch provided welcome refreshments.

From Saturday October 15th to Monday October 24th MU branches across the diocese took part in the campaign against Modern Day Slavery by displaying knitted chains, posters and other information in and around their churches.

Starting on 25th November, Mother's Union both worldwide and locally is part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence.

Jenny Claydon

St Michael's Church

At a Special Parochial Church Meeting held on October 9th, the meeting approved the change of name of the joint council which will be called "Worcester St. John-in Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council".

St John's Church

At a Special Parochial Church Meeting held on October 16th, the meeting approved the change of name of the joint council which will be called "Worcester St. John-in Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council".

Would you like to advertise in this magazine?

The Parish Magazine is published A5 in size, in black and white.

There are eleven issues each year, July and August being a combined issue.

An advert can be full-page, half-page or quarter-page in size.

The booking can be from one month
to one year.

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Buzzing to get stuck in

Well, after many years of confusion, prevarication and self-doubt, I finally listened to the call of the Holy Spirit and decided to pursue licenced lay ministry - that is to become a reader.

This involved numerous written pieces and conversations before a final interview day to see if I would be accepted on the two year programme at The Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. To my relief, surprise and nervousness, I got in and from the middle of September, things started to get very real!



A picture of the cross at Queen's with the chapel on the left and the lecture halls on the right

The first thing I did was meet up with the other readers in training for a weekend induction. Worcester and Lichfield Diocese put their readers through the same programme but I am the only Worcesterian this year with 11 Lichfielders! But they are all absolutely lovely and within moments we were chatting away and sharing our experiences as we got to know each other over coffee. And then we were into it! Experts in the Old and New Testament, ministry practice and mission told us what we might expect over the coming two years. We saw the amazing library, we worshipped alongside methodists and ordinands in the chapel and we shared our hopes and fears over a glass of wine in the common room.

More of the same on Sunday morning but our families were able to come to chapel and Sunday dinner and so Ellen got to see

Continued on page 17

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Continued from page 15

what it was all about too (although the Yorkshire puddings at Queen's aren't as good as hers). We were all buzzing when we left and desperate to get stuck into the first module which is called "An Introduction to the Bible"...starting us off with an easy one then!

There was lots of reading to do from books, but also videos and articles about the history of the Ancient Near East...plus lots of new words and abbreviations to learn. It's been a long time since I've studied at undergraduate level and I've never studied a humanities subject so that's quite a steep learning curve. We should be spending about 16 hours a week on this and I was quite nervous about that, but I have found a routine where I get up early and read before anyone else is up and then visit the Hive a couple of times in the evening.

What I have found is that I can't listen to the radio when reading but I also hate sitting in silence so I listen to Taize chants very quietly in the background.

Sometimes I find I read something over and over and it just doesn't make sense but then I'll read the same information from a different source and it just clicks.

On Wednesdays we have an online worship with the other first and second year readers in training before our lecture and discussion - this is the highlight of the week. It's the chance to test your understanding of the reading you have done and be challenged by the lecturer and the others. It's a great feeling when you chat and are all on the same wavelength!

Next up is a residential weekend where we will be exploring "Foundations for Ministry and Worship in Context." I'm not quite sure what to expect from that but I'll be able to tell you all about it in next month's magazine! Until then, thanks to everyone for all your support to get me this far.

God bless.

Rob Little

Smile lines

A small child returned from church very upset. He told his mother, "We sang 'Jesus wants me for a sunbeam', but I want to be a train driver!"

--- 000 ---

A little boy was taken Christmas shopping by his mother. He watched the escalator going down for several minutes, and then asked with concern: "What happens when the ground floor gets full of steps?"

--- 000 ---

A rather long-winded preacher was dealing with the Old Testament prophets, one by one. "And now," he propounded, "we reach Isaiah. Where shall I put Isaiah?" At that, a man in the front row stood up. "He can have my seat. I am going home!"



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Prayer squares

The Hospital Chaplains would be very grateful for more prayer squares. Here is a knitting pattern:

Double knit wool. 4mm needles.

Cast on 19 stitches.

Rows 1 – 6: Knit.

Row 7: K3 P13 K3.

Row 8 (and all even rows): Knit.

Row 9: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3.

Row 11: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3.

Row 13: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3

Row 15: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3.

Row 17: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3.

Row 19: K3 P2 K9 P2 K3.

Row 21: K3 P2 K9 P2 K3.

Row 23: K3 P2 K9 P2 K3.

Row 25: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3

Row 27: K3 P5 K3 P5 K3.

Row 29: K3 P13 K3.

Rows 30 – 35: Knit.

Cast off.

Please hand them in to church.

Many thanks.

Joy Job

Think about it...

Evil is not effectively resisted with hatred and guns. The only response to evil that has ever worked is the response of Jesus.... And that is to lead a life of love. That means what it has always meant: visiting the sick, giving to the poor, helping those who need help.

Jeffrey Burton Russell

--- 000 ---

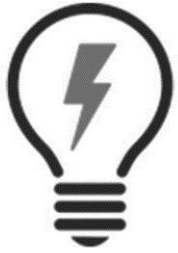
Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than hardening of the arteries. *Anon*

--- 000 ---

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important. *Anon*

--- 000 ---

The best vitamin for making friends is B-1. *Anon*



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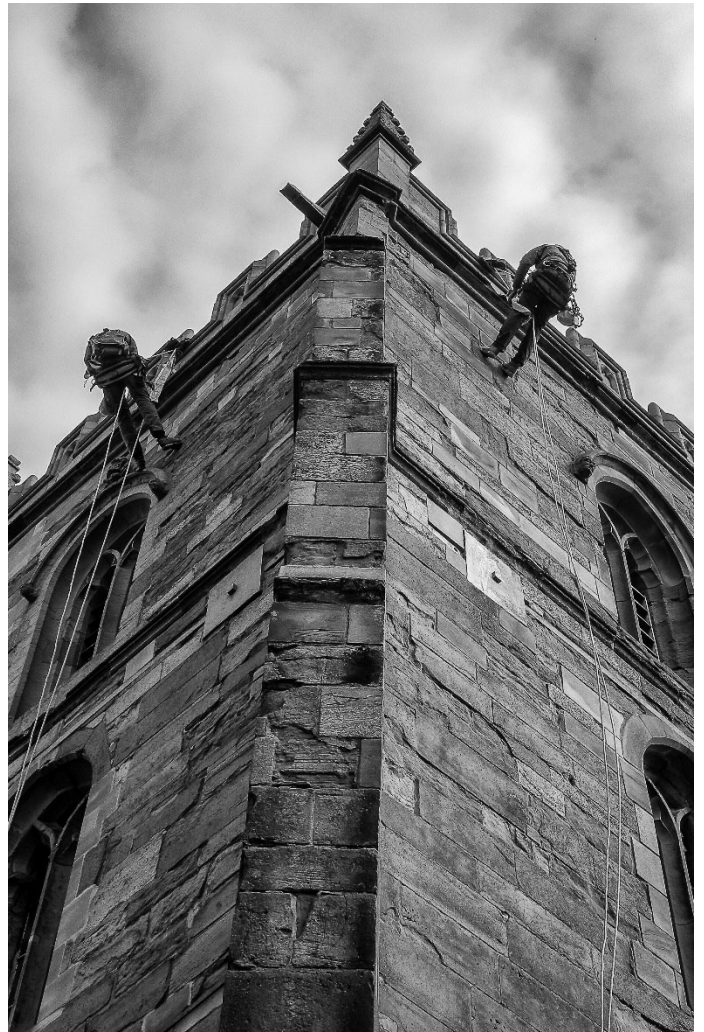
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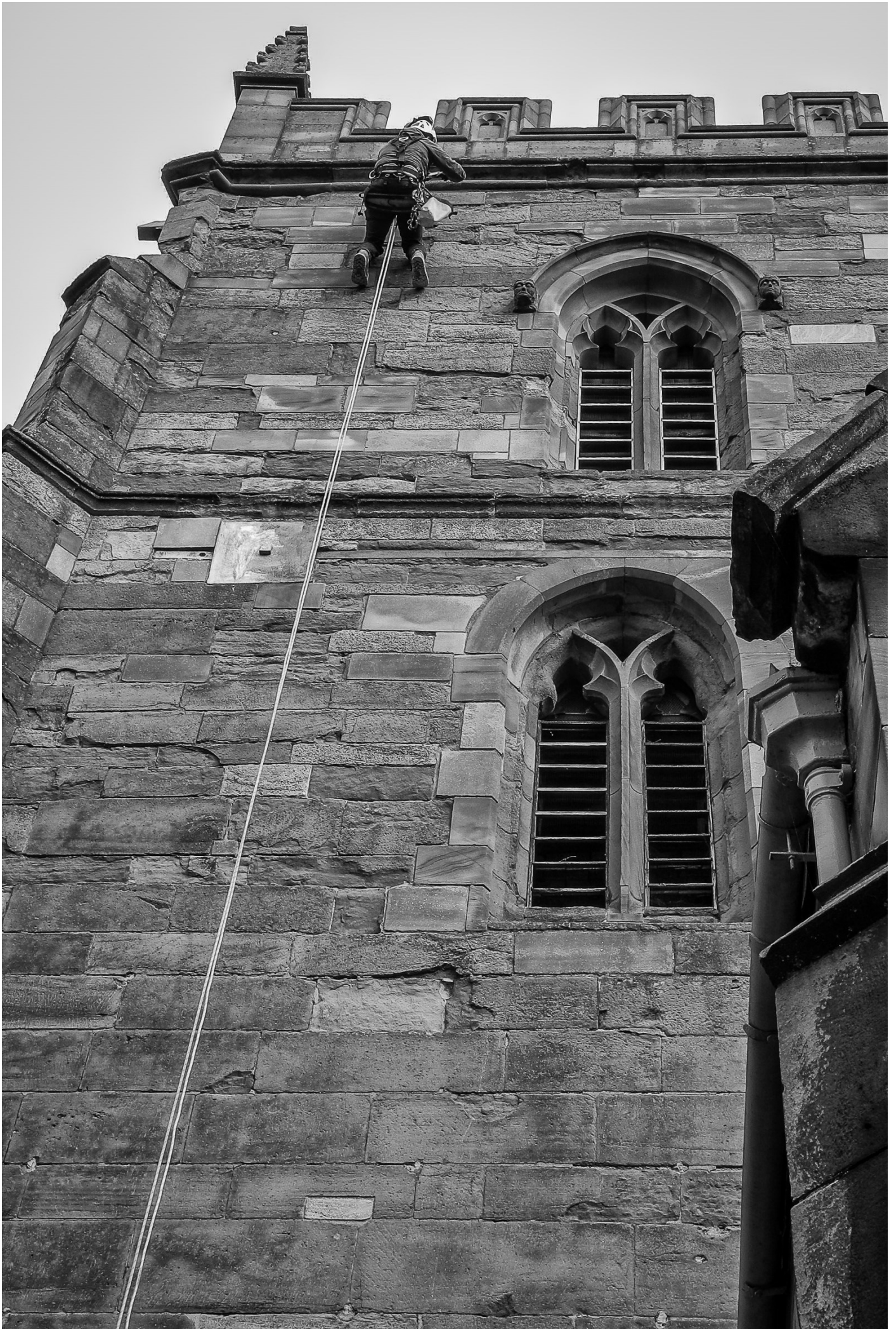
A towering achievement

Recently a group of abseiling stonemasons, who have done work at the Cathedral and the Bank of England, have been to look at the state of repair of the tower, which has to be done as part of our quinquennial round of repairs to the church.

They came at the end of September to look at all four walls of the outside of the tower. We now await their report on what needs to be done and, of course, the cost of the repairs.

Whatever the cost, it will be cheaper than the alternative, which involved putting scaffolding up to do the inspection and then again for the repair.







Colin Nash

Harvest flowers

The Flower Ladies had an enjoyable but busy morning creating their arrangements ready for Harvest Festival.



As they were aware that Covid had once again caused more illness amongst the congregation they realised that some people would miss the church looking so beautiful. Hopefully people would be visiting the church during the ensuing week and be able to enjoy the arrangements.



We had a vast array of autumnal foliage, some of which was generously donated, and which we enjoyed working with such as oak leaves with acorns, bright orange Chinese lanterns, sheaves of wheat, amazing seed heads of agapanthus, thistles, artichokes and ornamental purple cabbage heads, most of which were grown in our own gardens and allotments. Apples of course also featured! By the end of the morning it was incredible that it had all been used.





Unfortunately, the black and white photos of the magazine do not do the flowers full justice, but hopefully you will be able to imagine how colourful they look!

Joy Job



Prayers for our broken world

Lord Jesus, we pray for our world where your people are suffering and dying by the hand of others.

For Pakistan with half the country covered in flood waters, where children and parents are suffering water-borne diseases. Where there is malnutrition and hunger for so many displaced people. Where aid workers and medical personnel are struggling to help.

Lord, we pray that change in how countries are governed may be for the good of all their people and their livelihood.

We pray for Somalia and its people who are the victims of war and years of drought and famine. For the women and children living in refugee camps, that grow each day, with so many destitute and starving people seeking help and safety.

Lord, we pray that the rich nations of our world will offer aid in the form of food and medical care and help to bring change into people's lives.

Lord Jesus, we continue to pray for Ukraine and its peoples. For those living in the annexed regions of Ukraine, now living under Russian control. For the fear and loss they are facing each day.

We pray for those who continue the fight for freedom and democracy. May they receive courage and strength and be sustained by your Holy Spirit.

We see on our televisions the carnage and destruction of human life and livelihoods wiped out, as the perpetrators of war have destroyed cities and villages and innocent people, all in the name of power and greed.

We pray today for those who mourn, that they may be blessed.

Lord Jesus, we pray that all this violence will stop. That the aggressors will have a change of heart and find a way to resolve the conflict. We pray too for all leaders in our world to be willing to create opportunities for dialogue that will lead to peace for so many.

We pray that conflict can at last be resolved, there can be change and resolution in all situations where there is suffering and loss.

As you hung on a cross, Lord, and died for the sins of all of us , help us to remember your sacrifice made for our sinful world and help us to be each day channels of your peace to each other.



Make us channels of your peace,

Where there is despair in life
let us bring hope

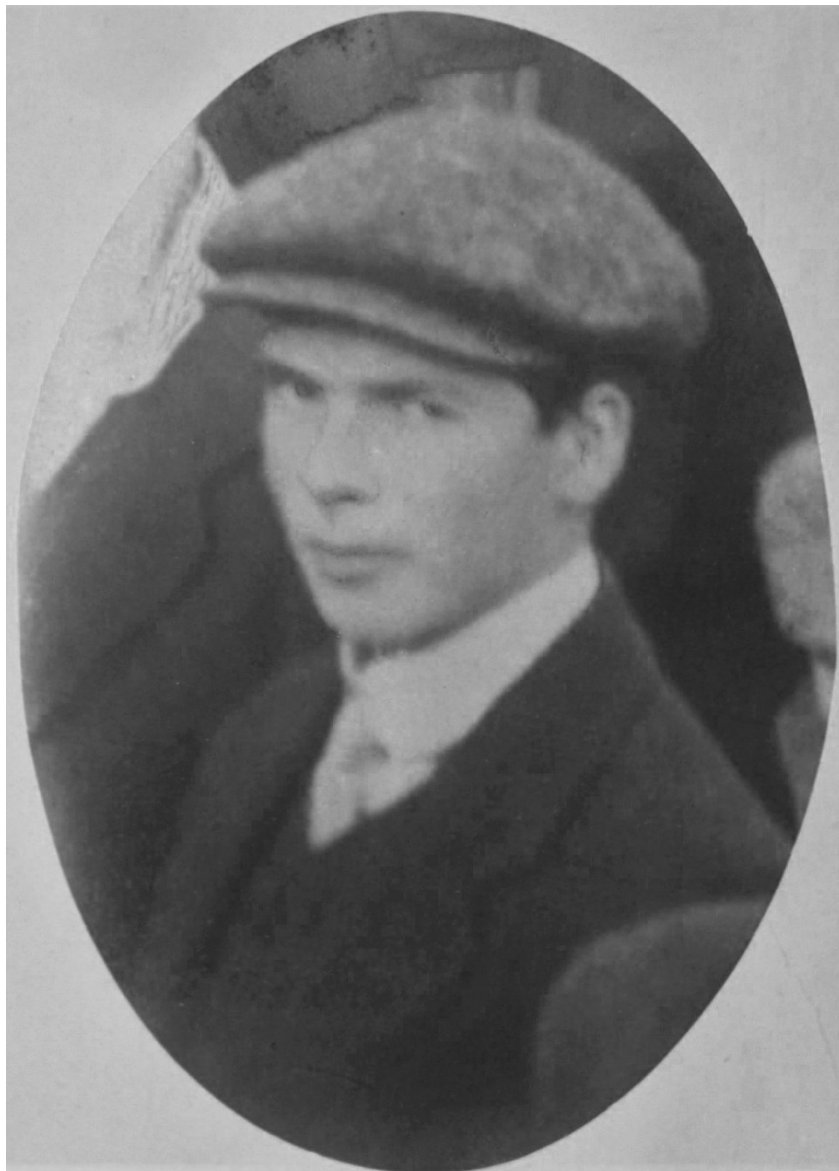
Where there is darkness,
only light

Where there is sadness,
ever joy.

Amen

Jenny English

William Bruton



For several years I have been a volunteer at the Royal Worcester Museum helping to conserve the archives. We have completed the books and are now onto the sample patterns, drawings and photos. It is always exciting to see what the next box will reveal but last month we opened one that really affected us.

It contained some exquisite water colours (top picture opposite) and pencil drawings (bottom picture opposite) by a young man called William E. Bruton, born 1898 and described as a 'well set up lad with a lovely complexion'. He had lived at 26 Happy Land North and attended St John's Boys School before starting at the Porcelain Works just before his fourteenth birthday. When WW1 started, he enlisted on 16th February 1915, giving his age as nineteen, although still only sixteen. His time with the Worcester Regiment lasted only one day because he was given his inoculations (needed before training and going to the front) and tragically died the following day.

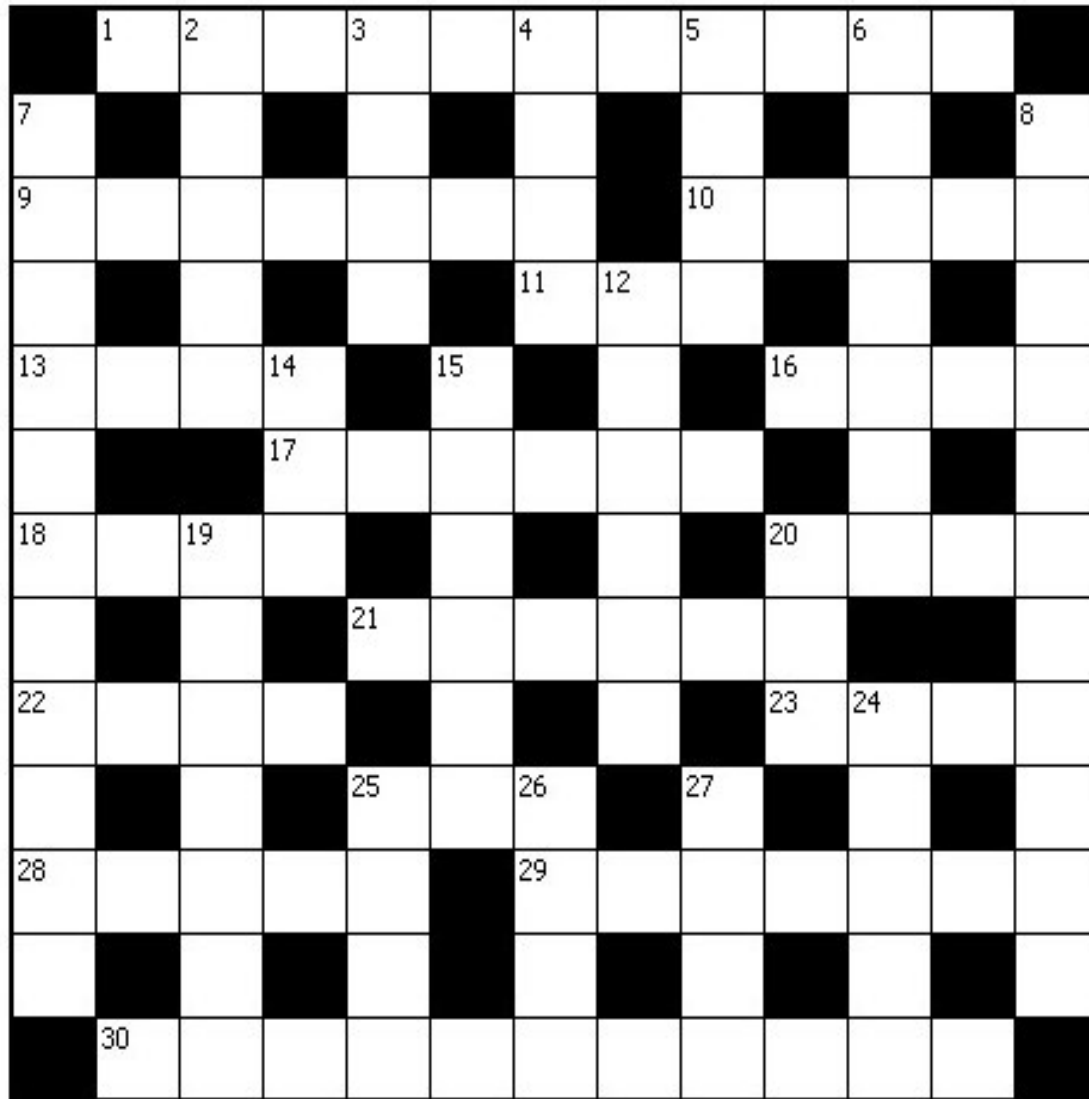
What a waste of talent, as with all those other lives. War!



Ruth Reeves

Crossword puzzle

The solution is on the inside back cover.



Across

- 1 across and 20 down ‘Lord of all _ , Lord of all _ , whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy’(11,3)
- 9 Moses’ question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: ‘Why are you _ your fellow Hebrew?’ (Exodus 2:13) (7)
- 10 Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline _ (2,3)
- 11 ‘At even _ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay’(3)
- 13 A descendant of Gad (Numbers 26:16) (4)
- 16 ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but _ for the gift my Father promised’ (Acts 1:4) (4)
- 17 Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6)
- 18 Peter’s response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: ‘We must _ God rather than men!’(Acts 5:29) (4)

- 20 Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, _ Eareckson Tada (4)
- 21 Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6)
- 22 ‘Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat _ _
‘(Matthew 13:2) (2,2)
- 23 Infectious tropical disease (4)
- 25 Tree (3)
- 28 ‘No fear of me should _ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you’(Job
33:7) (5)
- 29 For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7)
- 30 Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church’s calendar
(11)

Down

- 2 ‘O Jerusalem _ how _ I have longed to gather your children together’
Matthew 23:37) (5)
- 3 Way out (4)
- 4 Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4)
- 5 Done (anag.) (4)
- 6 Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7)
- 7 Concerning the study of God (11)
- 8 Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11)
- 12 Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)
- 14 Frozen (3)
- 15 Established form of religious ceremony (6)
- 19 Inscription often found on gravestones (7)
- 20 See 1 across
- 24 Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)
- 25 Time (anag.) (4)
- 26 Lists choice of meals (4)
- 27 ‘For the wages of sin is death, but the _ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus
our Lord’ (Romans 6:23) (4)

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As One Tea Party

The As One Initiative seeks to help nurture a sense of community by encouraging the formation of Street Associations which will then organise social activities for residents. Backed by local governments, the hope was that faith communities would take a leading role and this seemed a good idea to the PCC of St Clements.

We set a date, obtained a banner and sent out invitations to a tea party in church early in October. Our hope was that residents of various streets in our parish would come together, enjoy tea and cake and get to know their neighbours. We would then give them some tips about the formation and role of a Street Association and then leave it to them to work out the best way forward for their street.

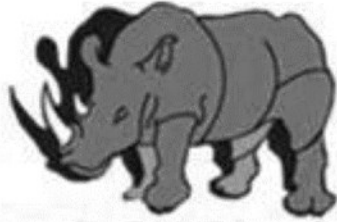
Unfortunately, despite a large number of invitations being delivered, we had only a very small take up. Nonetheless, we decided to go ahead with the event and on Saturday October 8th hosted our small, but extremely enjoyable tea party!



A handful of people who didn't previously know each other chatted enthusiastically while two young girls enjoyed not only cake but, thanks to Maureen and Marguerite, craft activities and goodie bags to take home. Nobody was in a rush to leave which we took as being a good sign and all agreed that it had been a worthwhile venture even if nothing more comes of it!

My thanks to all who delivered letters and helped on the day.

Sarah Cottrill



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Remembrance thoughts

11th November, is this just noting an anniversary of events in our history? Or a reminder to do better, whilst remembering all those that suffered during the wars? Last year my neighbour had a declutter and handed me a booklet of poems and writings compiled by the Worcester Writers' Circle published in 2016 as part of 'Remembering the Somme.' This was a living history project, remembering the 300,000 war graves and memorials in Britain - of which 150 are in Astwood cemetery. Many of the authors visited these graves, took inspiration, organised walks and readings. I was struck with the breadth of these writings covering a father's grief, sick and wounded, families who visit the graves and their memories, enlisting, Somme battle and Spanish flu; facets of the conflicts.

I imagine most families have a connection to some family member who went through these conflicts. My grandad was a miner so the Great War was spent mining although they were given military training as an invasion was expected on the north east coast. Towards the end of the war, he was given extra training and shipped to France, then marched through northern France to Cologne to be part of the peace keeping force. I have his pocket book where he gives the date he sent cigarettes to his friend on the front and the date this friend was killed there. He also noted the dates, places and distances of the villages they walked to in France and Germany.

My dad was called up during WWII from working on the railway to be part of the Royal Engineers railway division. After working around Britain moving ammunitions and war essentials, loading and unloading at docks, he arrived in North Africa crossing to Sicily and Italy with 'Monty.' He had mental health issues after the war.

In the writers' circle booklet, two items cover the Spanish flu. This killed more in two years than all the shells did. It was a consequence of the war as the allied governments didn't want to let Germany know there was an epidemic going on. Spain actually had little to do with it; except that, as they weren't at war, their press reported it and hence it got its name. The flu actually began in the USA on a turkey farm where a worker became infected, took it to a military training camp and then onward into Britain and the trenches. Given the ongoing death toll of our present pandemic I am asking myself did we really learn to do things better this time round?

I am also asking myself - have we really learnt the dangers of fascism after the battle to halt Hitler and others of like mind was won? With present economic difficulties and an unstable world, I hear and see things which cause me grave concerns. I pray that good will prevail.

Margaret Miller



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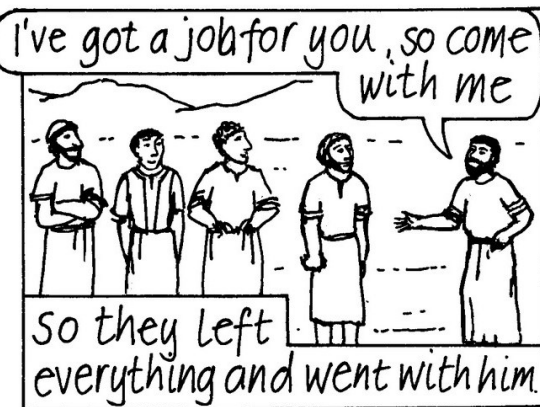
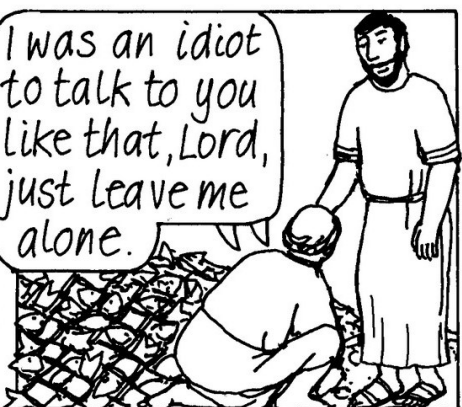
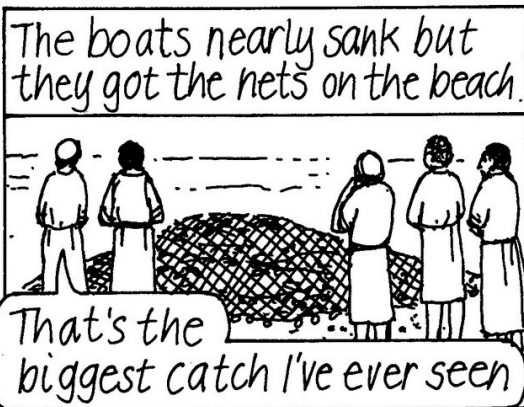
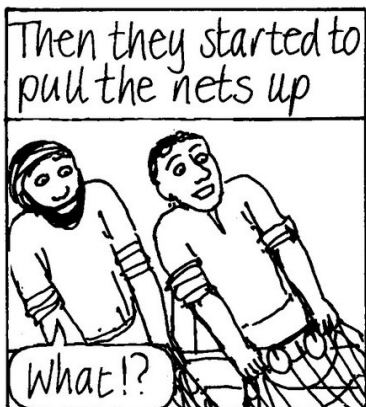
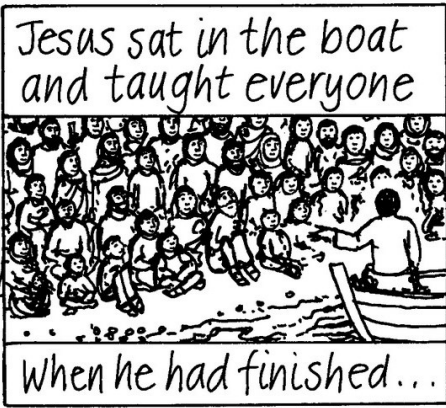
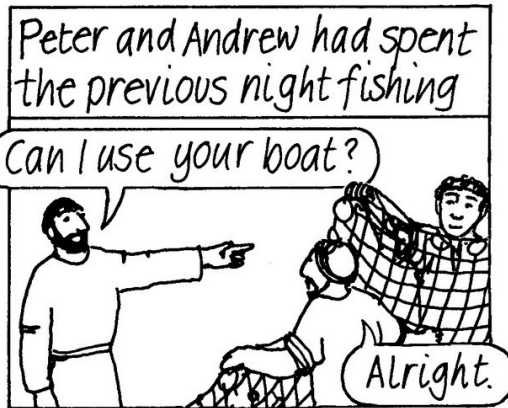


Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 5:1-11, Mt. 4:18-22, Mk 1:16-20

On the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus was trying to teach people but there were so many that he couldn't be heard.



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Summary of St Johns's PCC meeting

26th September 2022

There were 12 members present. Apologies were received from 2 members. The meeting opened with a prayer.

Church Archive: The PCC agreed to offer the 'Breeches Bible' to the Cathedral library.

Children and Youth Work: The activity bag project is up and running. The Feoffees approved a grant of £100.

Tower Repairs: Heritage Stone Access have inspected the tower by abseil and the report is awaited.

Kitchen: The PCC approved a spend of up to £10k to replace the dishwasher, oven, and extraction canopy. This will initially be paid for from the general fund, but it is hoped that the Haynes sisters' legacy can be earmarked for this when it becomes available.

Rob Little has started his LLM training with the Diocese of Lichfield at Queens.

Meco Plaque: The PCC resolved by email correspondence to apply for a faculty to install the memorial to commemorate the victims of the bombing of the Meco factory, which has been offered to the church by Komatsu ahead of the factory's closure and demolition. This will be installed at a suitable place on the wall of the Lady Chapel. We are waiting for a faculty and a cost estimate for installation costs which will be paid for by Komatsu.

Joint Council: The Bishop's Council have approved the new Joint Council with the name as 'Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council'.

A joint meeting of the St John's and St Michael's standing committees will be arranged with a joint PCC meeting to follow.

After Phil's sabbatical (Jan-Mar 2023) he would like to look at the vision, purpose, and viability of the new Joint Council, but the initial focus is on getting it into place legally. The legal changeover will take place at the end of 2022/beginning of 2023.

Messy Church: Phil is in discussion with someone who may be willing to take the lead on Messy Church.

Safeguarding Action Plan: The PCC reviewed the Safeguarding Action Plan approving various policies, delegations and actions within the plan and the plan itself, which was updated accordingly by Phil.

Continued on page 41



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Continued from page 39

First Aid Certificates: A number of these are running out in early 2023. Joy is waiting for St John Ambulance to get in touch with dates for the refresher course.

Finance: The Treasurer circulated the latest accounts before the meeting, He highlighted various items. The biggest expense is ministry share. Transitional grant has been claimed. There is still a necessity to look at more income, even though people are giving very generously.

The PCC approved the following policy in relation to payment of Ministry Share:

The Treasurer will not allow the balance of the general fund to fall below our reserves policy.

In 2023 the proportional amount each of the three churches in the WCW Team pays will be reviewed based on clergy time given to each church.

Charity Committee: Luise Horrocks will become Chair to the Charity Committee (Sarah has left this role). The Charity Committee will arrange a meeting to draw up their remit. The PCC were happy for the Charity Committee to continue as a separate committee looking after charitable donations.

Churchyard Issues: There has been anti-social behaviour in the churchyard during the school summer holidays. Various measures will be put in place to deter any further issues. The police are aware that the Guides do sometimes light carefully controlled fires during their Tuesday evening sessions.

Photocopier Lease Extension: The PCC were circulated details on the proposed retention of this lease for a further 3 years. The proposal retains our present per copy prices and reduces our rental by 13%. The PCC approved this.

Colour copies are significantly higher than mono. It was agreed that colour copying would be reduced – such as pew sheets to be printed mono from now on.

Phil's Sabbatical: There was a discussion about the service rota for this period.

Nave Altar: This has to be moved for every funeral and some other events. Due to its weight, moving it is a health and safety issue even when done by two people. We need to make sure that it is moved in its two parts by two people.

Brian Askew to be asked to investigate an alternative light-weight altar or an aesthetically pleasing way to move the current one (e.g. castors and a ramp).

Sound system: The speakers in the Chancel are now working.

The meeting closed with The Grace.

*PCC minutes by Liz Edwards (PCC Secretary)
Summarised by Graham Evans (PCC member)*

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- Thursday: 09:00am - 5:00pm
- Friday: 09:00am - 5:00pm
- Saturday: 09:00am - 4:00pm

Please telephone or 'drop in' for the latest dates and events or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslibraryworcester/>

THE HIVE, WORCESTER

Roald Dahl Day

Rescheduled for Saturday 5th November – 10:30am-3:00pm

Join us for some phizz-whizzingly brilliant fun to celebrate Roald Dahl Day at The Hive, which has been rescheduled for Saturday 5th November!

In celebration of this best-loved storyteller, we'll be offering a range of fantabulous activities for you to enjoy including story times, selfie station, dressing up, games and a BFG inspired craft activity. We'll also be joined by award-winning performance poet 'SPOZ' who will be creating some seriously silly, squishous and swashboggling poems with you! Check out the full agenda at http://www.thehiveworcester.org/Roald_Dahl-Day/Roald_Dahl_Day.html

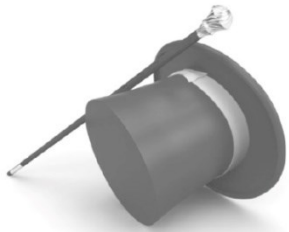
Do I need to book?

The day is FREE of charge, and you don't need to book a place to attend. However, you can pre-book for our chargeable BFG Dream Jars 'Make & Take' activity via the website link given above.

We look forward to seeing you on this scrumdiddlyumptious day!

P.S. Don't forget to come dressed as your favourite Roald Dahl Character!





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Day School Festival.

Our sixth annual festival takes place on Sunday, November 23rd (the fourth Sunday in November). The arrangements will follow the usual course, but our musical efforts will be of a rather more ambitious character than last year. In the morning the younger girls will sing "God make my life a little light," and the elder girls will sing Kingsley's "A Farewell (Be good, sweet maid)." In the evening the elder boys and girls will combine in rendering the two-part anthem, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace," specially composed for school and college festivals. The subject of the morning sermon is "Sister Dora of Walsall," and of the evening sermon "Faint, yet pursuing."

All communicants are earnestly asked to come and intercede at the Altar for God's Blessing upon our Day School Work. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

The collections throughout the day will be given to our Day School Fund (current account), which has to meet all the many day-by-day expenses for which the Parish is responsible. I earnestly ask for a splendid response to this appeal for sympathy, interest, prayers, and generous support.

St. John's Charities

The Churchwardens and I will sit in the Church Vestry on Thursday, November 27th, from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., to receive applications for any of St. John's Charities. Applicants (or somebody to represent them) should come to the Church by the ordinary entrance, and wait in Church till asked to come into the Vestry.

The Missionary Work of the Church.

(1.) I am most anxious for a really good observance of the Day of Intercession on the Eve of St. Andrew, Saturday, November 29th. Please make a special note of the notice on page 2, (2). The Annual S.P.G. Sale of Work is to take place in the Public Hall on Thursday, December 4th. Contributions for the St. John's Stall may be sent, as usual, to Miss W. Norbury, 38, Bromyard Road. Further particulars by leaflet.

St. John's Clothing Clubs.

To the list of tradesfolk please add Miss H. M. Davis, 5B, St. John's.

Yours most sincerely,

CHARLES T. POWELL.

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2. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
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Puzzle solutions

2	3	8	5	7	9	6	4	1
9	5	4	1	3	6	2	7	8
1	7	6	4	2	8	3	5	9
8	4	3	7	9	5	1	2	6
6	9	2	3	4	1	7	8	5
5	1	7	6	8	2	4	9	3
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7	2	5	8	6	3	9	1	4

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And finally....



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*...love the new notice board, Vicar...
...just not quite so sure about the wording...*



Sunday Services in the Worcester City West Team – November 2022

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
6th November	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm All Souls' Service	9.30am Morning Prayer 7.15pm All Souls' Service	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
13th November	9.55am Remembrance Service	10.30am Remembrance Service	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Eucharist
20th November	10.30am Eucharist	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
27th November	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Advent Carol Service	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Morning Prayer
6th December	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist

The information above is correct at the time of going to press but please watch the weekly church newsletters and website for the latest information.